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## REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTICES.

A Sanskrit Grammar, including both the Classical Language, and the Older Dialects, of Veda and Brahmana. By WILLIAM DWIGHT WHITNEY, Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology in Yale College, New Haven. For sale by B. Westermann & Co., New York. Price \$3.70.

We have received from the publishers, Messrs. Breitkopf and Härtel of Leipsic, a copy of Professor Whitney's Sanskrit Grammar. It is the first of a series of Indo-European grammars which this house is now issuing. This volume appears in English, and also in a German translation by Dr. Heinrich Zimmer.

The name of the author is a sufficient voucher for the character of the book. Unlike most of its predecessors, it is based upon thorough-going investigations of the actual facts and usages of the language as seen in the most important documents of its extant literature. It includes "both the Classical Language, and the Older Dialects, of Veda and Brahmana." This promise of the title-page suggests one of the most distinctive features of the work. It is an historical grammar from beginning to end. Multitudes of the facts of the classical language, as stated in the ordinary treatises, appear excessively arbitrary and artificial; but when presented as they are here, in the light of the older language, they appear reasonable and natural. Dead as the Sanskrit itself may be, this volume everywhere makes the *study of Sanskrit* now a study of *life and growth*.

The use of different sizes of type enables the beginner to select easily those portions a knowledge of which is needed at the outset. The Sanskrit words are transliterated throughout; and are given in the original characters also, where this was practicable (in the paragraphs set in the largest type and leaded).

To all students of Sanskrit, and no less to classical teachers who desire to get from that language what help they can for making their work intelligent and effective, Mr. Whitney's grammar is worthy of unqualified commendation. The lack of suitable type precludes our giving in this number such a detailed notice of the

work as it deserves; but we were unwilling to neglect this, the earliest opportunity, to call attention to it. May its appearance mark the beginning of a new epoch in linguistic studies for our native land!

C. R. L.

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A Study of the Hexameter of Virgil, and a Study of the Principal Latin Rhythms other than the Hexameter. By JOSEPH W. CLOUGH. Boston, 1879.

The author attempts to show that Latin poetry was recited exclusively according to accent, and attributes to each accented syllable two *tempora* and to each unaccented syllable one *tempus*, thus admitting quantity as an element after all. And still he believes that each verse was composed *conventionally* with a certain quantitative *metrum*; that, for instance, the hexameter had to have its six feet, four of which were dactyls or spondees, the fifth usually a dactyl and the sixth a spondee (or trochee). But this *metrum* was entirely disregarded in reciting. Vergil, he says, wrote "with the fear of the quantities before his eyes," yet he neither tells us the origin of this conventional usage, nor does he inform us what the quantity of the *metrum* really was; and it is difficult to see what it could have been, inasmuch as in the "rhythm" (by which term he designates the true reading "*cantatio*, not *lectio*," of verse) the accented syllables were long and the unaccented short. Moreover, in each kind of verse there was a fixed number of accents and a fixed number of *tempora*. In the hexameter the accents were *five* and the *tempora twenty-four*. The ordinary minimum verse, having thirteen syllables, gives us  $8 + 2 \times 5 = 18$  *tempora*, and the maximum, seventeen syllables, gives  $12 + 2 \times 5 = 22$ . The other *tempora* of the twenty-four were made up by pauses. This system compels us sometimes to make a pause at the end of every word, and sometimes to place two accents on one word, and sometimes to group several words together under one accent; and that, too, although the author himself says that Quintilian assigns the accent a fixed position, and that "we have eminent authority for the fact that each word . . . had but one accent." (This "authority" should have been named, so that we might judge for ourselves of his "eminence." It was a certain M. Tullius Cicero.) He even treats Greek verse in the same manner, *applying the Latin system of accentuation*. Of